



# GRAIN TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Agricultural Marketing Service  
United States Department of Agriculture



APRIL 9, 2002

We would like to bring your attention to the following event:

## A National Forum on Agriculture and Transportation Linkages

**“Assessing the Importance of Transportation to Major Industrial Sectors of the U.S. Economy”**

**MAY 17-18, 2002**

**Ramada Plaza Suites**

**Fargo, North Dakota**

### **Sponsored by:**

American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials  
United States Department of Agriculture  
United States Department of Transportation

### **Hosted by:**

Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute  
North Dakota State University

### **Program Goals**

- ! Expand and strengthen understanding of the importance of agriculture to the economy and the importance of transportation to agriculture;
- ! Show how the transportation system contributes to the success of the agricultural industry;
- ! Help public sector transportation policy makers and program managers develop a base for decisions that make transportation respond to agricultural needs, and,
- ! Develop a foundation for partnership between people in the agriculture and transportation community to increase investment in transportation.

### **Who Should Attend**

The Forum will be of interest and value to transportation policy makers and specialists in both the private and public sectors who are involved with the transportation of agricultural products and the distribution of food – including state DOT officials, business logistics specialists and transportation service providers in all modes – as well as researchers and educators specializing in freight transportation issues.

### **Program Fees**

The program fee is \$125 per person. This includes meals, a notebook of seminar materials and a special event Saturday afternoon.

For more information please log onto <http://www.ugpti.org/forum.pdf>

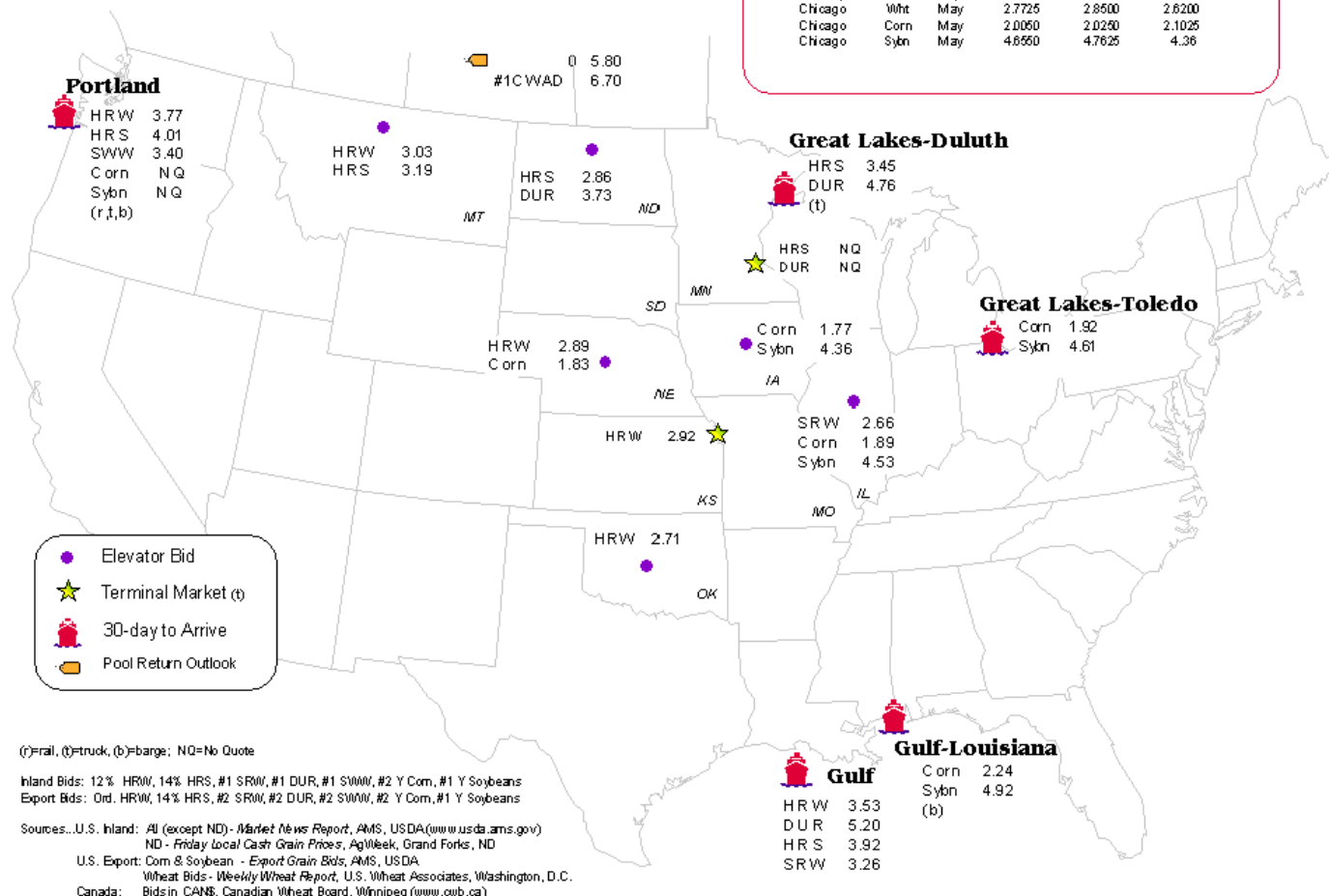
Phone: (701) 231-7767

Fax: (701) 231-1945

Report is prepared by Sigal Nissan, Economist, Transportation & Marketing, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA (202) 690-1304. Report design by Kimberly Vachal, Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute, North Dakota State University. This report can be found on the Internet at [www.ams.usda.gov/tmd/grain.htm](http://www.ams.usda.gov/tmd/grain.htm). E-mail comments to [Sigal.Nissan@usda.gov](mailto:Sigal.Nissan@usda.gov)

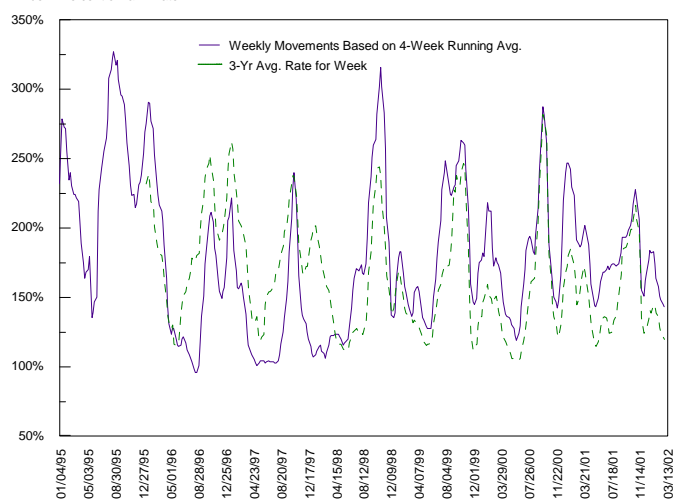
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## Grain Bid Summary

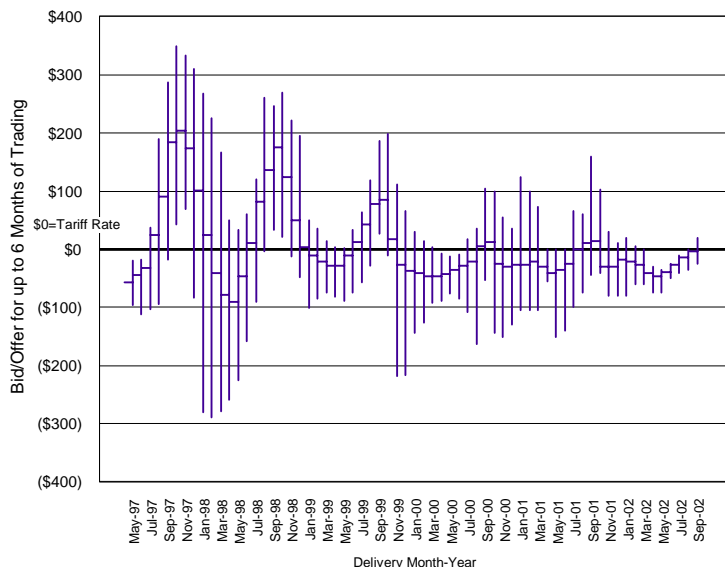


## Spot Barge Rate - Illinois River

Index - Percent of Tariff Rate



## Secondary Rail Market Bids



**Rail Car 'Auction' Offerings**

Delivery for:	May-02		June-02	
	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>
<b>BNSF-COT</b>	12,735	7%	11,820	5%
<b>UP-GCAS</b>	5,400	2%	5,400	0%

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA; www.bnsf.com; www.uprr.com

**Secondary Rail Car Market**

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Week

	<b>Delivery Period</b>			
	Apr-02	May-02	Jun-02	Jul-02
BNSF-GF	\$(28)	\$(33)	\$(21)	\$(4)
UP-Pool	\$(33)	\$(34)	\$(34)	\$(23)

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from Atwood/ConAgra., Harvest States Co-op, James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.;

GF=Guaranteed Freight, GEEP=Guaranteed Eqpt. Exchange, Pool=Guaranteed Pool

note... bids listed are market INDICATORS only & are NOT guaranteed prices, missing value=No Bid Quoted

**Railroad Car 'Auction' Results**

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Auction

Delivery for:	May-02	Jun-02	Jul-02
COT/N. Grain	no bid	no bid	no bid
COT/S. Grain	no bid	no bid	no bid
GCAS/Region 2	no bid	no bid	no offer
GCAS/Region 4	no bid	no bid	no offer

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com), [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com), (COT=Certificate of Transportation; GCAS=Grain Car Allocation System)

**Southbound Barge Freight Nominal/Cash Basis Values**

Index=Percent of Tariff, Based on 1976 Tariff Benchmark Rate

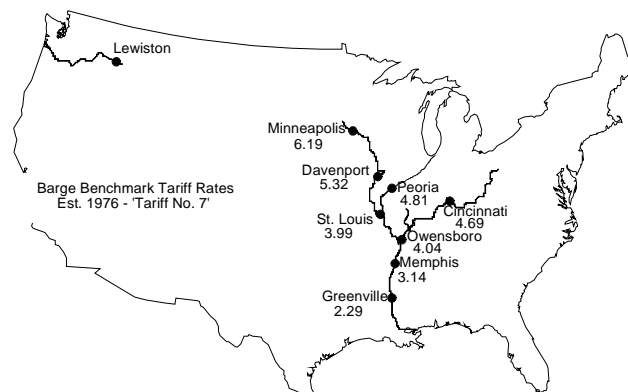
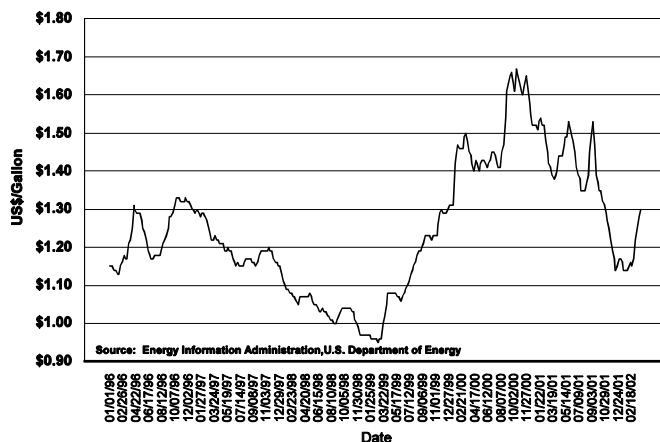
Week ended	River/Region	Contract Period	<b>Rate</b>	
			Futures	Cash
04/05/02	St. Louis	Apr	0	113
		Jun	0	125
		Aug	0	160
		Oct	0	205
		Dec	0	135
	Illinois River	Apr	0	125
		Jun	0	145
		Aug	0	175
		Oct	0	230
		Dec	0	165

Source: St. Louis Merchants Exchange

**Southbound Barge Freight Spot Rates**

	4/3/02	3/27/02	May '02	Jul '02
Twin Cities	175	173	174	192
Mid-Mississippi	145	146	142	165
Illinois River	125	129	130	154
St. Louis	106	109	111	131
Lower Ohio	113	120	114	138
Cairo-Memphis	104	108	106	124

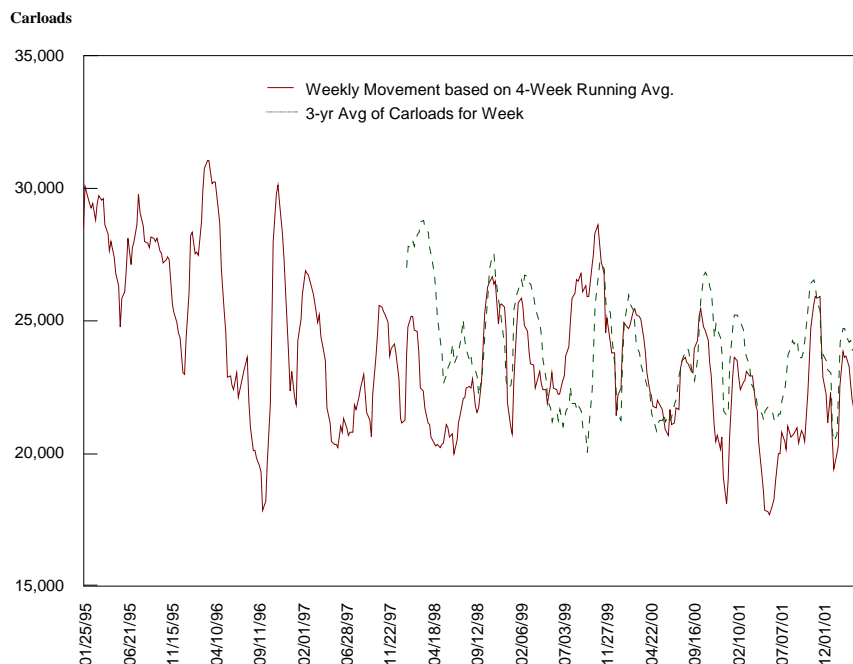
Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA  
nq=no quote;

**Weekly Retail Diesel (Road) Prices (Including Taxes)**

## Grain Car Loadings for Class I Railroads

Class I Railroad Grain Car Loadings	
Week Ending:	Carloads
3/16/02	21,478
03/23/02	20,260
03/30/02	19,150
Year to Date - 2002	285,881
Year to Date - 2001	295,703
Total 2001	1,117,601
Total 2000	1,188,917

Source: Association of American Railroads



## Class I Rail Carrier Grain Car Bulletin

Grain Carloads Originated

	East		West			Canada	
	CSXT	NS	BNSF	KCS	UP	CN	CP
03/30/02	2650	2,931	5,979	495	7,095	4,264	2,703
This Week Last Year	2,906	2,896	8,958	515	6,886	4,594	4,042
2002 YTD	39,256	38,141	98,273	7,905	81,651	47,123	44,888
2001 YTD	43,703	37,984	108,331	5,870	79,897	57,640	57,345
2001 Total	151,864	163,018	428,603	26,330	347,156	254,982	232,461
2000 Total	147,708	153,905	425,849	26,515	364,785	160,749	239,670

Source: Association of American Railroads

## Tariff Rail Rates for Unit Train Shipments

March 2002

Date Effective	Tariff Item	Commodity	Origin	Destination	Rate Per Car	Rate Per MT	Rate/Per Bushel*
04/01/02	45560	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Houston, TX	\$2,050	\$22.60	\$0.62
04/01/02	43521	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$3,877	\$42.74	\$1.16
04/01/02	46540	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Houston, TX	\$1,650	\$18.19	\$0.50
04/01/02	43586	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$4,347	\$47.92	\$1.30
04/01/02	43581	Wheat	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$4,005	\$44.15	\$1.20
04/01/02	31040	Corn	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
04/01/02	31035	Corn	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$2,700	\$29.76	\$0.76
04/01/02	31040	Corn	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
04/01/02	61180	Soybean	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
04/01/02	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
05/01/98	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$2,780	\$25.23	\$0.83

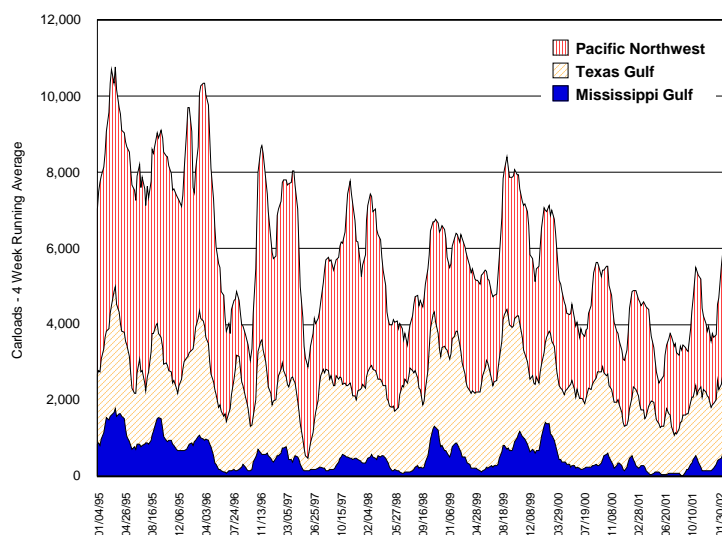
Source: www.bnsf.com

Approximate load per car = 100 tons: Corn 56 lbs/bu, Wheat &amp; Soybeans 60 lbs/bu

**Rail Deliveries to Port****Carloads**

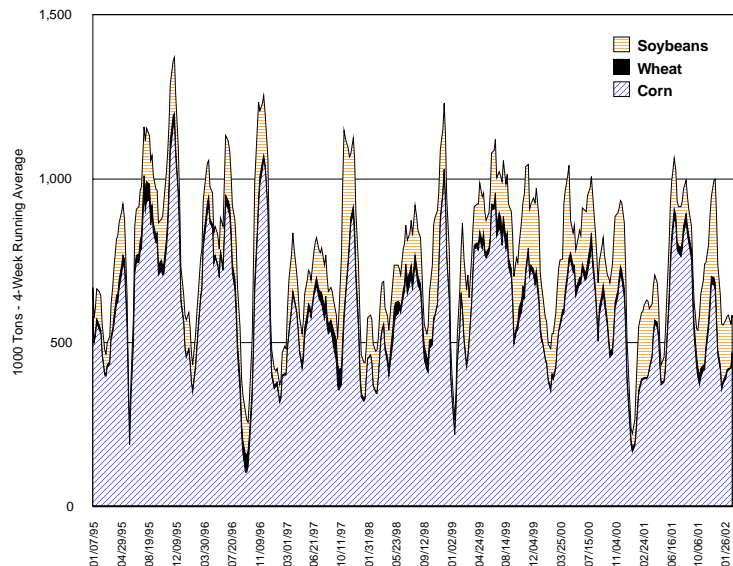
	Mississippi Gulf	Texas Gulf	Pacific Northwest	Atlantic & East Gulf
Week Ending:				
02/20/02	758*	2,058	2,523	603
02/27/02	609*	2,165	2,518	875
03/06/02	300*	2,200	2,518	380
03/13/02	264*	1,748	1,864	349
03/20/02	134*	2,099	1,984	279
03/27/02	101*	2,341	2,073	236
YTD 2002	4,745*	24,435	29,386	7,993
YTD 2001	4,089	18,189	30,378	10,779
Total 2001	10,022	81,804	111,376	26,604
Total 2000	25,767	104,473	128,414	14,816

Source: Transportation &amp; Marketing/AMS/USDA

**Rail Deliveries to Port**

(\*) Incomplete Data

(\*\*) Identical figures are correct

**Barge Movements - Locks 27****Barge Grain Movements**

for week ending 3/30/02

	Corn	Wht	Sybn	Total
	1,000 Tons			
Mississippi River				
Rock Island, IL (L15)	198	12	78	288
Winfield, MO (L25)	309	2	80	390
Alton, IL (L26)	597	12	167	776
Granite City, IL (L27)	747	17	206	970
Illinois River (L8)	349	11	48	407
Ohio (L52)	79	5	20	159
Arkansas (L1)	0	34	1	35
2002 YTD	7,738	478	2,929	11,699
2001 YTD	6,110	496	2,939	10,196
Total 2001	31,878	2,679	10,616	47,091
Total 2000	33,482	2,518	10,327	48,247

Miss YTD: Calendar year totals include Miss/27, Ohio/52 and Ark/1.

Source: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers; L15 &amp; L25 closed for winter.

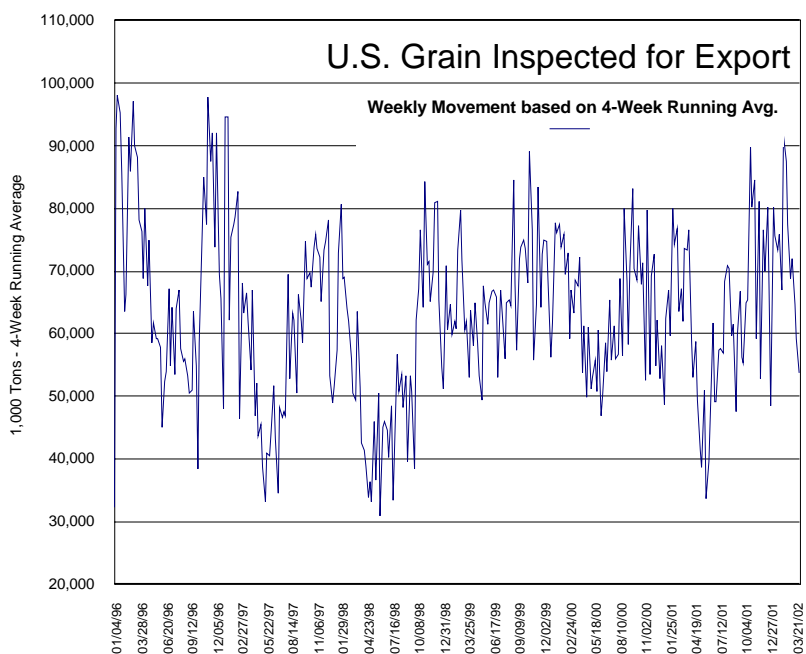
**U.S. Export Balances** (1,000 Metric Tons)

	<i>HRW</i>	<i>SRW</i>	<i>HRS</i>	Wheat <i>SWW</i>	<i>DUR</i>	<i>All</i>	Corn	Soybean	Total
<u>Unshipped Exports-Crop Year</u>									
03/28/02	1,306	840	876	462	141	3,624	7,037	2,825	13,486
This Week Year Ago	1,184	452	1,000	721	281	3,638	6,338	2,907	12,883
<u>Cumulative Exports-Crop Year</u>									
01/02 YTD	7,140	4,593	4,589	2,658	1,006	19,986	26,090	22,996	69,072
00/01 YTD	7,715	3,730	4,693	4,306	933	21,376	26,635	17,713	65,724
99/00 Total	9,858	4,710	6,305	5,413	1,232	27,518	37,220	24,516	89,254
98/99 Total	7,387	3,645	7,864	6,105	963	25,965	44,476	24,501	94,942

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service YTD-Year-to-Date ([www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov)) Crop Year:Wheat=5/31-6/01, Corn & Soybeans=9/01-8/31**Select U.S. Port Regions - Grain Inspections for Export - 1,000 Metric Tons**

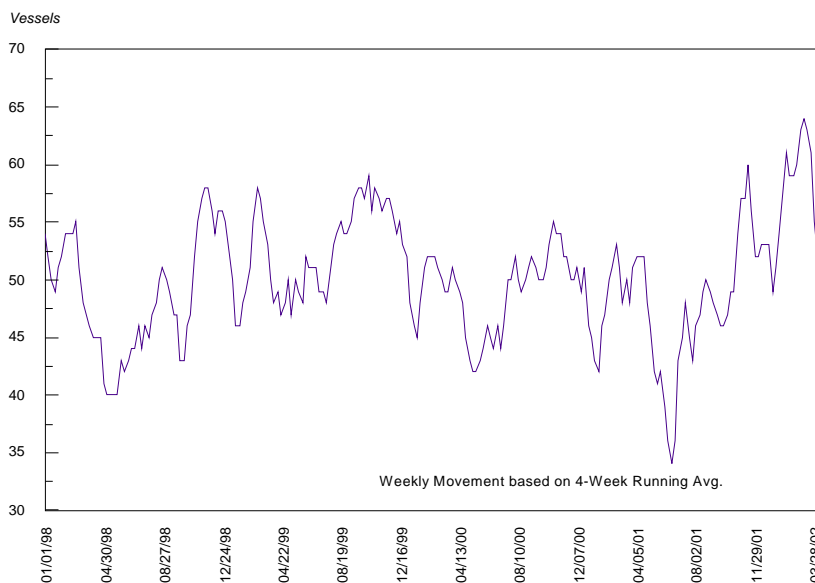
	<u>Pacific Region</u>			<u>Mississippi Gulf</u>			<u>Texas Gulf</u>		
	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>
04/04/02	215	75	9	48	685	129	244	0	0
2002 YTD	2,381	1,356	870	1,461	9,601	6,839	1,732	63	681
2001 YTD	2,705	1,304	1,121	1,461	8,238	6,365	1,355	146	701
% of Last Year	24%	23%	51%	22%	27%	38%	25%	13%	68%
1998 Total	10,838	4,373	651	5,048	31,330	14,917	7,270	562	1,392

Source: Federal Grain Inspection Service YTD-Year-to-Date

**Select Canadian Ports - Export Inspections**  
1,000 Metric Tons, Crop Year

	<u>Wheat</u>	<u>Durum</u>	<u>Barley</u>
Week Ended: 03/28/02			
Vancouver	4,323	266	390
Prince Rupert	888	0	0
Prairie Direct	365	303	257
Thunder Bay	294	191	45
St. Lawrence	2,436	1,391	0
2001 YTD Exports	8,306	2,151	692
2000 YTD Exports	8,228	2,059	1,197
% of Last Year	101%	104%	58%

Source: Canadian Grains Commission, Crop year 8/1-7/31



**Gulf Region  
Vessels Loaded  
- Past 7 Days-**

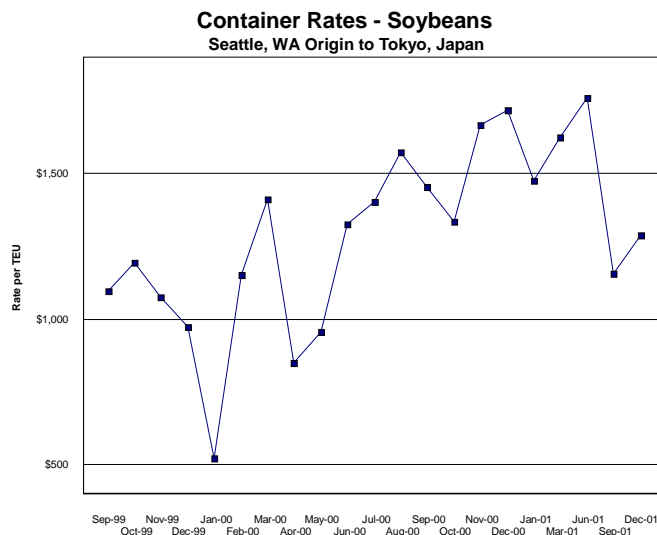
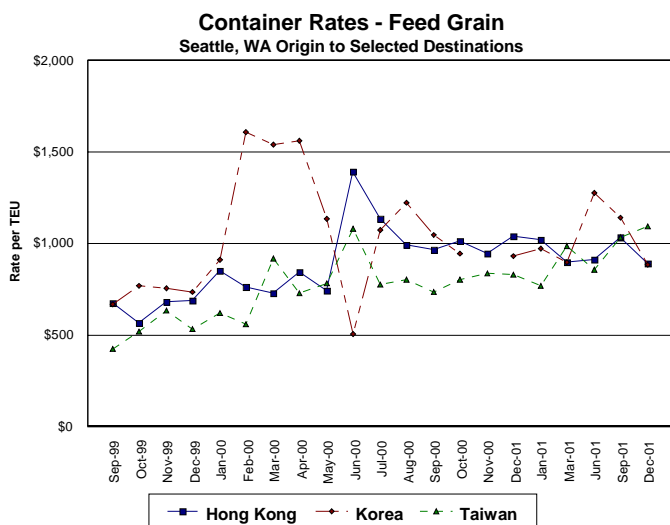
### Port Region Ocean Grain Vessels

	Gulf			Pacific Northwest			Vancouver, B.C.		
	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>
03/28/02	31	45	58	6			2	7	4
04/04/02	29	47	53	5			4	3	0
2001 Range	(13..65)	(28..64)	(46..81)	(1..18)			(4..20)	(3..14)	(0..7)
2000 Range	(23..50)	(34..57)	(47..83)	(4..15)			(4..20)	(5..19)	(0..9)
2001 Avg	36	48	63				12	8	3
2000 Avg	36	49	65				11	9	3
1999 Avg	32	52	65				10	9	3

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/ USDA

### Container Ocean Freight Rates

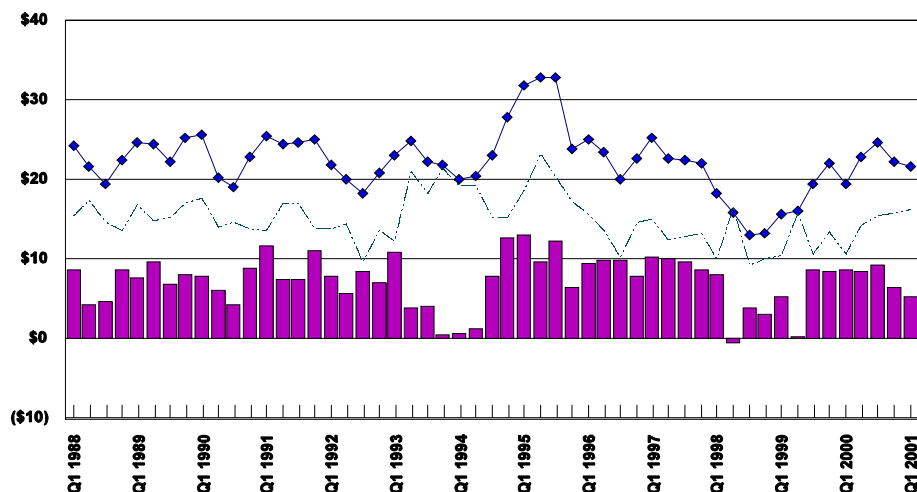
Monthly Weighted Averages Based on Shipping Line Monthly Mkt. Share



Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA

◆ Rate - Gulf to Japan  
 --- Rate - PNW to Japan  
 ■ Spread - Gulf vs. PNW to Japan

US\$/Metric Ton



Quarterly Ocean  
Freight Rates

### Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Average Rates & Percentage Changes, U.S. Dollars/Metric Ton - Basis

	2001 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	2000 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	% Change		2001 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	2000 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	% Change
<b>Gulf to</b>				<b>Pacific NW to</b>			
Japan	\$16.25	\$22.38	-27%	Japan	\$9.64	\$15.87	-39%
Mexico		\$13.39	-	Red Sea/ Arabian Sea		\$26.70	-
Venezuela		\$13.29	-				
N. Europe	\$11.73	\$14.96	-22%	<b>Argentina to</b>			
N. Africa	\$16.98	\$22.26	-24%	Med. Sea	\$17.47		-
Med. Sea	\$10.58	\$15.19	-30%	N. Europe	\$16.22	\$18.97	-14%
				Japan	\$26.33		-

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA; (\*) rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs.=one metric ton)

### Ocean Freight Rates (Select Locations) - week ending 4/6/02

Export Region	Import Region	Grain	Month	Volume Loaded (Tons)	Freight Rate (\$/Ton)
Gulf	Egypt	Heavy Grain	Apr 15/30	60,000	\$11.25
Gulf	Benin & Ivory Coast	Rice (bagged)	May 10/20	3,500	\$190.00
Gulf	Ghana	Wheat	Apr 10/20	9,570	\$33.75
Lake Charles, LA	Kenya	Grains (bagged)	Apr 5/10	3,860	\$111.85
Jacintoport	Kenya	Sorghums (bag.)	Apr 8/15	7,250	\$111.85
Gulf	India	Grains	Apr 17/26	11,250	\$46.99
Gulf	Taiwan	Heavy Grain	Apr 23/30	54,000	\$19.85
N. Pacific	Taiwan	Heavy Grain	Apr 20/30	55,000	\$11.30
N. Pacific	Japan	Heavy Grain	Apr 25/May 5	54,000	\$11.50
Germany	Saudi Arabia	Barley	Apr 5/10	55,000	\$13.00

Source: Maritime Research Inc.; rates shown are for long ton (2,240 lbs.=one long ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicated; op=option